

Abstract

The Bachelor's thesis „Comparison of non-European immigration policy of the United Kingdom during the premierships of Tony Blair and Gordon Brown in 1997-2010“ is a comparative case study which deals with the outputs of immigration policy, especially the legislation and governmental papers published since the New Labour won the general election in the United Kingdom in 1997 until 2010, when the New Labour lost. The two compared cases are delimited by the years 1997 and 2007 for the premiership of Tony Blair, and years 2007 and 2010 for the premiership of Gordon Brown. The thesis' goal is to discover if and how did the main focus of the immigration policy towards non-European immigrants has changed, in spite of the same party in charge and if the restrictiveness or openness of the country towards non-European immigration has changed as well. There are three research criteria, regulations of entry, control mechanisms and naturalisation, which are used for determining this in the thesis. Based on the analysis and comparison of data in both cases, it can be determined that the immigration policy focus has changed partially, and the restrictiveness has been growing since Gordon Brown has become the Prime Minister. These differences between the two Prime Ministers seem to be caused by the socioeconomic impacts, such as the economic crisis which affected the United Kingdom in 2008, or the addition of new member countries to the European Union in 2004, which has affirmed the theoretical inclusion of this thesis to the theory of domestic politics.